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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/628,384	07/29/2003	Tsukasa Ooishi	57454-949	3939
20277	7590	02/10/2006	EXAMINER	
MCDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP 600 13TH STREET, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005-3096			LUU, AN T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2816	

DATE MAILED: 02/10/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

3V

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/628,384

Applicant(s)

OOISHI ET AL.

Examiner

An T. Luu

Art Unit

2816

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 21-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 21-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/301,359.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7-29-03</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. Claim 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The specification does not disclose function “notify said control circuit that supply power is started” as recited in claim 22.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 21-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by the Yamagata et al reference (US Patent 5,726,946).

Yamagata discloses in figures 32 and 33 a semiconductor device comprising a plurality of power supply systems (i.e., 700-1...700-n) each supplying power to a plurality of circuits (i.e., SUB CKT 750 in figure 33), and a control circuit (710 and 720) transmitting first control signals ($\Phi B1-\Phi Bn$) to said plurality of power supply systems, said plurality of power supply systems

Art Unit: 2816

receiving said first control signals from said control circuit to supply power to a group of desired circuits (See figure 33) as required by claim 21.

As to claim 22, as best understood, lines 22-30 of col. 47 disclose control signals Φ_{ccia} . Φ_{ccib} . Φ_{ssia} and Φ_{ssib} are maintained at the same state when the circuit is in stand-by mode. Therefore, changing of any one of control signals Φ_{ccia} . Φ_{ccib} . Φ_{ssia} and Φ_{ssib} indicates supply of power is started.

As to claim 23, line 54 of col. 46 to line 30 of col. 47 disclose the control circuit controls transmission of second control signals (i.e., Φ_{ccia} . Φ_{ccib} . Φ_{ssia} and Φ_{ssib}) after said power supply systems have started supply of power (i.e., in active state) to said group of the desired circuits.

As to claim 24, figures 32-36 disclose a semiconductor device comprising a substrate 765 (figure 36) in which a circuit (i.e., IV50 of figure 34) exists, and a power supply system (i.e., all components but IV50-52 of figure 34) supplying a potential (i.e., VCC or VCL or VSS or VSL) of said substrate, said power supply system switching between a first case in which the substrate potential satisfies a first voltage condition in the forward direction with respect to the conductivity of source-drain of a transistor and a second case in which the substrate potential satisfies a second voltage condition of a value smaller than that of the first voltage condition (See description of Embodiment 5 from col. 48).

As to claim 25, figures 32-36 disclose a control circuit (i.e., 710 and 720) transmitting a control signal (i.e., Φ_{cc} , Φ_{ss} and Φ_{bn}) to said power supply system is provided inside the semiconductor device, and said power supply system receives said control signal from said

Art Unit: 2816

control circuit to supply power (i.e., VCC or VCL or VSS or VSL) to a group of the desired circuits (i.e., 700-1...700-n).

As to claim 26, it is rejected for reciting an operational characteristic of the above circuit (See Abstract and/or Summary of the invention).

Conclusion


5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to An T. Luu whose telephone number is 571-272-1746. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy P. Callahan can be reached on 571-272-1740. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

An T. Luu
2-4-06 *ATL*


TIMOTHY P. CALLAHAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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